APPENDIX E.

I

An Address read by Mr, Graham Anderson, C.I.E

On behalf of the members of the Mysore Representative Assembly, I have the distinguished honor to tender a renewed expression of homage, loyalty and devotion to His Highness the Maharaja coupled with sincere felicitations on the complete recovery of His Highness the Yuvaraj from a recent and serious illness.

No one who has had the privilege of listening to the able and comprehensive address which has just been delivered can fail to gratefully appreciate the sustained endeavours of His Highness' Government to maintain every department of the administration in the highest possible state of efficiency and I trust that it will not be considered presumptuous on my part if I venture to add humble congratulations to those which I feel sure will follow on the successes attained during the past season in regard to all matters having for their object the maintenance of prosperity and contentment throughout this most interesting province. The decrease in plague is especially gratifying and the people of Mysore are deeply grateful for the liberal and efficient measures that have been all along adopted by Government to overcome the disease.

While naturally cherishing grateful memories of what was so benevolently effected by the Paramount Power before the Rendition, the members of the Representative Assembly cordially join in thankfully recognizing the material progress which has taken place since that memorable event, under the guidance of far-seeing and sympathetic statesmanship.

The foundations of prosperity which were so well and truly laid have not only been scrupulously guarded, but have been extended, while constant care has been exercised in perfecting the superstructure of enlightened institutions which will ever remain worthy evidences of the beneficient policy of His Highness the Maharaja in the discharge of the exalted duties which are inseparably associated with the sacred trust committed to his charge.

It is, therefore, indeed, a pleasurable duty to tender the voluntary assurance of those whom I have the honor to represent that they are second to none in their gratitude for the freedom and privileges which they in common with all classes of His Highness' subjects, continue to enjoy.

October 1904.

II.

An Address read by Mr. E. R. George, on behalf of K. G. F. Mining Board.

To

Sir P. N. Krishna Murti, K. C. I. E., Dewan of Mysore.

SIR,

As the Representative of the Kolar Gold Field Mining Board I have the honor to express their appreciation of the interest which the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore has continued to manifest in the Gold Mining industry. The Board whilst recognizing the advancement in prosperity which the Mines have made during the past year also appreciate the co-operation and progressive policy of His Highness' Government, and, in this connection, I am desired by the Board to convey their special thanks to you, Sir, whom they recognize as the prime mover in many of the measures adopted by Government for the benefit of the industry. I should like to take this opportunity to offer the Board's sincere congratulations to His Highness the Maharaja on the recovery of His Highness the Yuvaraja from his serious illness early in the present year.

Roads.—The Board have noticed with much pleasure the attention given to the Government roads on the Kolar Gold Field. At the same time, they desire me to say that a more careful supervision of repairs than at present obtains is necessary if the roads are to stand the strain of the heavy traffic to which they are subjected.

Cauvery Power Scheme.—We are pleased to be able to record that the operation of the Cauvery Scheme continues to give the mining authorities complete satisfaction. The far-seeing policy of His Highness' Government in the matter of the further supply of power, now in course of installation, is greatly appreciated, and it will no doubt prove mutually beneficial to the Government and the Mines.

Police.—We much regret having occasion to draw the attention of His Highness' Government to the grave necessity which exists for the augmentation of the Police and Detective organizations on the Field. Notwithstanding the improvement in the force which has taken place during the past two or three years, thefts, especially of gold, are alarmingly on the increase. The Mining Companies are putting forth every effort to co-operate with Government in minimizing crime on the field, and, in support of this, I beg to state that they are maintaining a watch and detective establishments numbering 590 persons at an annual cost of Rs. 1,41,657. The Board are of opinion that the sentences passed in the majority of cases of gold stealing heard in the Mysore Courts are so inadequate as to have little deterrent effect upon criminals, and they respectfully suggest for the consideration of His Highness' Government, the advisability of providing for more severe punishments to act as a check, and I am desired to ask that the Government will seriously consider the question of augmenting the strength of the Police force on the field.

While on this subject we desire to draw the attention of His Highness' Government to the following matter:—

An accused was charged by the Malur Taluk Police in June last with the theft and dishonest possession of mine bar gold. He was tried by the Magistrate of the Kolar Gold Field, and was acquitted on the finding that the gold was acquired in ignorance that it was mine gold. But as it was not possible for either of the Mining Companies to identify the gold as their property, the Magistrate ordered that it should be confiscated to Government under Section 517 (*b*) of the Criminal Procedure Code. Subsequently the Hon'ble the Chief Court, in revising the case, decided that as the gold was not acquired in an unlawful manner, the order of the Magistrate confiscating it was wrong, and directed that it should be returned to the accused. The restitution of the gold to the accused has caused the Board very grave concern because they fear that it may seriously prejudice their interests. They therefore desire to suggest to His Highness' Government the advisability of passing an order to the effect that all gold, having the peculiar characteristics of Kolar gold which may be found in the possession of accused persons shall, whether it is proved to have been stolen from the Mines, or not, be retained under Government supervision before it is disposed of by the Court.

I am also requested to suggest that the spirit of clause 8 of the Mines Regulation, which throws the onus on the accused of proving lawful possession of mining property, which legislation is only applicable on the Kolar Gold Field, should be extended to the whole of the Mysore State, as the wider application of this measure will no doubt afford a much larger protection to the interests of the Mining Companies.

Police Act.—The necessity of the introduction of this Regulation for the Mysore Province was brought forward at the last Dasara Assembly, and we note with great satisfaction that the question has recently been receiving the attention of a special Committee appointed by His Highness' Government. We again desire to record that our Sanitary Board has done excellent work since its formation; but the aid that should be derived by a Police or Municipal Act would much extend its usefulness.

Government Hospital.—We are gratified to see that the erection of a Hospital has been commenced. It is unfortunate, however, that the progress of the work has been very slow, as it is most desirable that it should be completed at an early date. The population of the Mining area is between 80,000 and 90,000 persons, fully two-thirds of whom have not the privilege of medical treatment at the Mining Companies Hospital, but are compelled to look to Government for such attention as only a Hospital can render. The urgent need for such an institution is therefore obvious.

Maternity Hospital.—We also desire to impress upon His Highness' Government the great need that exists for a Maternity Hospital, and much disappointment is felt that another year has elapsed without anything having been done in the matter.

More than one case has been attended with dire results owing to the absence of a Hospital of this nature.

Plague.—The Board desire me to express their sincere thanks to His Highness' Government, with whom it is desired to associate Mr. F. E. C. Carr, the late Deputy Commissioner of Kolar, for the valuable assistance rendered in preventing the spread of plague in and around the mining area, and they trust that Mr. Carr's successor (Mr. K. P. Puttanna Chetty) will continue the same energtic policy. The evidences that they have already had of that gentleman's activity in co-operating with the mining authorities in the adoption of precautionary measures have inspired them with the greatest confidence in him, and lead them to anticipate that he will be equally to the fore in combating the recrudescence of the disease which has recently taken place.

Water-supply.—With regard to the Kolar Gold Field Water-supply Scheme, we desire to offer to His Highness' Government our sincere sympathy in the disappointment and loss it has sustained by the breaching of the Bethamangala m and other tanks, and to express our thanks for the promptitude with which repairs have been undertaken. We trust that in the interests of both His Highness' Government and the Mines the stablity of the bunds is now assured, and that the supply of water to the field will soon be forthcoming.

Assistant Magistrate.—The appointment of a whole-time Munsiff and Assistant Magistrate has been attended with good results, and we very much appreciate the action of His Highness' Government in the matter.

In conclusion, I beg to tender to you, Sir, and to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja the hearty thanks of the Mining Board for the courtesy with which you have at all times received their representations, and to express the hope that the Mining industry will continue to receive your continued good-will and protection.

October 1904.